

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 19-25 are now pending. Claims 7, 8 and 19-21 have been allowed. Applicants appreciate the acknowledgement of the allowance of the indicated claims. Claims 22-25 have been rejected.

35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 22-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent Application Publication 2004/0163748 A1, Ueyoko. The cited Publication 2004/0163748 A1 is also owned by Applicant. Applicant has amended the inventorship of the cited case. The inventorship entities of the cited application and the instant application are now the same. It is respectfully requested this rejection be withdrawn.


Claims 22-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent Application Publication 2002-0005239 A1. With respect to claim 22, claim 22 recites a zigzag belt structure and a spirally wound belt layer wherein the spirally wound belt layer is wider than the zigzag belt structure. The cited reference teaches a zigzag belt 32 and circumferentially wound plies 300, 301. The plies 300, 301 are not wider than the zigzag belt structure as required by Applicant's claim. As claim 22 is not believed to be anticipated, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 25 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ueyoko et al. (6,116,311). Claim 25 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by de Loze de Plaisance et al. (6,125,900) taken with Oswald (4,838,966). Claims 22-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent Application Publication 2002-0005239 A1. Claim 25 has been rejected as being unpatentable over de Loze de Plaisance et al. (6,125,900) taken with Oswald (4,838,966) and in view of Ueyoko et al. (6,116,311). Claim 25 has been amended to recite that the strips are overlapped substantially throughout

the shoulder portion of the tire. As the cited references fail to anticipate or establish *prima facie* obviousness of the invention as recited in claim 25, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

In light of this amendment, all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application are allowable. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to allow all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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